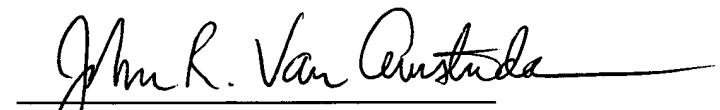
Remarks

Applicants have amended the specification to provide priority application information and information regarding the publication in English under PCT Article 21(2) of PCT application PCT/US00/04326, of which the instant application is a U.S. national stage application. The claims were canceled or amended to reduce filing fees and to eliminate multiple dependent claims. No new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner base examination upon the claims amended under Article 34(2)(b) in the international stage and as amended herewith.

In view of the foregoing amendments, favorable action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to advance the prosecution in any respect.

Respectfully submitted,



John R. Van Amsterdam
Registration No. 40,212
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02210
Tel. (617)720-3500

Docket No. L0461/7121
Dated: August 17, 2001
X08/22/01

Added Section

Related Applications

This application is a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT International application PCT/US00/04326, filed February 18, 2000, which was published under PCT Article 21(2) in English. This application claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of United States provisional application serial number 60/158,566, filed October 8, 1999 and of United States provisional application serial number 60/121,170, filed February 22, 1999.

Amended Claims

5.(amended) The isolated HLA class II-binding peptide of [claim 1 or] claim 3, wherein the isolated peptide comprises an endosomal targeting signal.

7.(amended) The isolated HLA class II-binding peptide of [claim 1 or] claim 3 wherein the isolated peptide is non-hydrolyzable.

10.(amended) A composition comprising an isolated EphA3 HLA class I-binding peptide and [an] the isolated EphA3 HLA class II-binding peptide of claim 1.

15.(amended) An isolated nucleic acid encoding [a] the peptide [selected from the group consisting of the peptide of any] of claim[s 1-6 or 9] 3, wherein the nucleic acid does not encode full length EphA3.

21.(amended) A method for enriching selectively a population of T lymphocytes with T lymphocytes specific for an EphA3 HLA binding peptide comprising:

contacting a source of T lymphocytes which contains a population of T lymphocytes with an agent presenting a complex of the EphA3 HLA binding peptide of claim 1 and an HLA molecule in an amount sufficient to selectively enrich the population of T lymphocytes with the

T lymphocytes specific for an EphA3 HLA binding peptide.

25.(amended) A method for diagnosing a disorder characterized by expression of EphA3 comprising:

contacting a biological sample isolated from a subject with an agent that is specific for the EphA3 HLA binding peptide of claim 1, and

determining the interaction between the agent and the EphA3 HLA binding peptide as a determination of the disorder.

27.(amended) A method for diagnosing a disorder characterized by expression of [an] the EphA3 HLA binding peptide of claim 1 which forms a complex with an HLA molecule, comprising:

contacting a biological sample isolated from a subject with an agent that binds the complex; and

determining binding between the complex and the agent as a determination of the disorder.

29.(amended) A method for treating a subject having a disorder characterized by expression of EphA3, comprising:

administering to the subject an amount of [an] the EphA3 HLA binding peptide of claim 1 sufficient to ameliorate the disorder.

41.(amended) A method for treating a subject having a disorder characterized by expression of EphA3, comprising:

administering to the subject an amount of autologous T lymphocytes sufficient to ameliorate the disorder, wherein the T lymphocytes are specific for complexes of an HLA molecule and [an] the EphA3 HLA binding peptide of claim 1.

46.(amended) An isolated polypeptide which binds selectively to a polypeptide of [any of] claim[s 1-4 or 9] 3, provided that the isolated polypeptide is not an HLA molecule.

50.(amended) An isolated T lymphocyte which selectively binds a complex of an HLA molecule and [an] the EphA3 HLA binding peptide of claim 1.

52.(amended) An isolated antigen presenting cell which comprises a complex of an HLA molecule and [an] the EphA3 HLA binding peptide of claim 1.

54.(amended) A vaccine comprising the polypeptide of [any of] claim[s] 1[-4 or 9] and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

56.(amended) A vaccine comprising a [cell selected from the group coinsisting of] a T lymphocyte of claim[s] 50 [and 51 and an antigen presenting cell of claims 52 and 53], and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.